Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 14-287

Released: February 28, 2014

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF AT&T SERVICES, INC. ON BEHALF OF BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC; ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY; INDIANA BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.; MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY; THE OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY; PACIFIC BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY; SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY AND WISCONSIN BELL, INC. TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 14-35 Comp. Pol. File No. 1142

Comments Due: March 31, 2014

Section 214 Application

Applicant: AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Southeast; Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois; Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Indiana; Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan; The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio; Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California; Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Southwest; and Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin

On January 24, 2014, AT&T Services, Inc. (AT&T or Applicant) filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) on behalf of its affiliates, BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Southeast; Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois; Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Indiana; Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio; Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California; Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Southwest; and Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin (AT&T Affiliates), located at 4513 Western Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532, requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue certain domestic telecommunications services in the AT&T service territories in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin (collectively, Service Areas).

AT&T indicates that the AT&T Affiliates currently offer Wideband Analog Service and Wideband Data Service (Affected Services) in the Service Areas pursuant to the terms in Ameritech Operating Companies Tariff FCC No. 2, Section 7; BellSouth Telecommunications Tariff FCC No. 1, Section 7; Pacific Bell Telephone Company Tariff FCC No. 1, Section 7; and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Tariff FCC No. 73, Section 7. AT&T describes Wideband Analog Service as an analog transmission service offered at bandwidths that include 60-180 kHz, 564-3,084 kHz, 300 Hz-18 kHz, 29-44 kHz or 28-44 kHz. AT&T explains that this service is provided between customer designated

premises through Serving Wire Center(s) or between customer designated premises and a Telephone Company Hub. AT&T describes Wideband Data Service as one that provides analog transmission of synchronous serial data at the rate of 19.2, 50.0 or 230.4 Kbps, or of asynchronous serial data at 18.75 or 40.8 Kbps. AT&T further explains that Wideband Data Service is provided between customer designated premises through Serving Wire Center(s). AT&T states, however, that there is no market demand and that the AT&T Affiliates do not have any current customers for these services. Accordingly, AT&T indicates that the AT&T Affiliates plan to discontinue the Affected Services in the Service Areas effective May 1, 2014, subject to Commission approval. AT&T maintains that the public convenience and necessity will not be harmed by the proposed discontinuance because of the lack of market demand for these services. AT&T states that the Affected Services are offered pursuant to dominant carrier regulation.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, AT&T's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 60th day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies AT&T that the grant will not be automatically effective. In the application, AT&T indicates that the AT&T Affiliates plan to discontinue the Affected Services in the Service Areas effective May 1, 2014, subject to Commission approval. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of AT&T's application, absent further Commission action, the AT&T Affiliates may discontinue Wideband Analog Service and Wideband Data Service in the Service Areas on or after **May 1, 2014**, in accordance with AT&T's filed representations. The Commission normally will authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before March 31, 2014. Such comments should refer to WC Docket No. 14-35 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1142. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of <u>before</u> entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C140, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the

Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written ex parte presentations and memoranda summarizing oral ex parte presentations. and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, or Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The tty number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other-adjud.

- FCC -

3

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.